



MARITZBURG PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Established 1924

Affiliated to the Philatelic Federation of South Africa

NEWSLETTER

“Fun with Stamps”

36 Amberfield, Private Bag X010, Howick 3290



Issue Number: 01/2020

Date: 01 January 2020

HAPPY NEW YEAR

Yes, it's that time of year again and we wish all Readers a prosperous and healthy 2020

Climate change must be at the forefront of our minds because the Thematic Group is busy compiling “Happy Feet” for the Open Class at Algoapex 2020 and one of the features is about Emperor Penguins that face an 86% reduction in numbers because of the melting Antarctica ice-cap! What a frightening thought.

We must also share a thought for the Adelle Penguin that lives exclusively on ice-floes which are melting thereby reducing its natural habitat.

The bush-fires in Australia are also very frightening with fresh fires breaking out almost every day. Several lives have been lost and many houses destroyed.

Spare a thought for the wild animals that have been caught-up in this mess especially the Koala Bears whose habitat has been ruined.

Perhaps we should also consider the oceans and the terrible pollution that is causing death to all types of marine life.

Our own Country needs attention as many beautiful towns are fast becoming slums with roads that are littered with rubbish that has been carelessly dumped.

Instead of making resolutions that are quickly broken or forgotten perhaps we should resolve to pray for a better world.



The Chinese Lunar New Year, the Year of the Rat, will be celebrated with the issue of two rat stamps in China. According to the 2020 Chinese horoscope, the Lunar New Year starts on Saturday, January 25th and ends on February 11th 2021. In Chinese culture, rats are seen as a sign of wealth and surplus. Due to its ability to reproduce in large numbers, the rat is also a sign of fertility and a good year to produce a baby.



Left: Koala (Laughing Koala) Australia 1986 SG 1025

Bottom left: Adelle Penguins. BAT 088 Letter rate. Issued 2014

Bottom right: Emperor Chick BAT Definitive issue 2018



IMPORTANT NOTICE

In 2020 we will still meet on the THIRD Monday of every month at 16h00 although members are welcome to come earlier to join the Traditional Group or Thematic Group activities from 15h00 to 16h00
The Alphabet Show is back with the letters **A & B** for Monday 20 January 2020 – PLEASE PARTICIPATE

SEEN AT THE CHRISTMAS PARTY ON 09 DECEMBER 2019

Val de Jager	Fred de Jager	Annetjie Joubert
Joyce Hulse	Cynthia Clemitson	Julia Evans
Tony Evans	Aubrey Bowles	Jill Bowles
Fred Handman	Heather Wyllie	Dave Wyllie
Pat Izaaks	Mary Bennett	Pieter Swanepoel
Gordon Bennett	Bill Dougherty	Dave Beyers
Carol Breytenbach	Chris Breytenbach	Kim Breytenbach
Mike O'Connor	Hettie O'Connor	Moyra Gilson
Les Williams	Peter Dobeyn	Cecily Dobeyn
Russell Bowton		

Everybody enjoyed the wonderful Christmas Fare provided by Val de Jager and her great team.

There were a few Christmas related exhibits on display with the highlight of the day being "Pass the parcel" conducted by Dave Wyllie. Each person brought a wrapped gift valued at R20 or less with Dave Wyllie telling a story which ensured that the parcels were sent to the left and to the right at a rapid pace! Much fun was enjoyed by all which resulted in a present for all!

Our Society is "alive and well" and we are all looking forward to another exciting and eventful stamp year in 2020

BIRTHDAY WISHES

January
 08 Roland Archer
 21 Joyce Hulse
 26 Dave Beyers
 29 Louise Fourie
 We wish all of you a very Happy Birthday with all best wishes for an exciting year.



Roland Archer shares a birthday with Elvis Presley who was born on 08 January 1935 in Memphis, Tennessee

WANTED

One of our readers is looking for the following stamps in "fine used" condition. He is prepared to pay a reasonable price for them.

>Southern Rhodesia 1953 definitive issue SG87-91

2/- to one pound

>Rhodesia & Nyasaland 1959-1962 definitive issue SG30 10/- "mlanje"

>SWA Definitives 1954 SG164-5 5/- and 10/-

Contact Chris Diack on:

082 890 1812

chris@finbofs.com

One of our members, Pat Izaaks, is looking for any South African **Aviation Booklets** and will accept any in good condition.

He can be contacted on:

082 591 0990

NOTE

Due to the Festive Season, this newsletter comprises two pages only which we hope that you will enjoy reading.

Contributions to this newsletter are always very welcome and should be sent to:

burncree21@telkomsa.net

HOW TO IMPROVE YOUR SOCIAL LIFE

Collecting stamps brings you together with other people: other stamp collectors; other collectors generally, who share the thrill of the chase and the triumph of discovery!

Have more money to spend on socialising: Stamp collecting is an incredible low-cost hobby so you will have plenty of disposable income to splurge out on taking your wife or girlfriend to the "Stamp It Out" monthly collectors disco.

You are not alone: Take pleasure in the fact that there are tens of thousands of people in South Africa who share your past-time and next time some hairy lager lout with a dental problem sneers at you for devoting your spare time to an intellectual activity rather than rampaging up the high street bellowing Lions! Lions! Lions! Tell him that stamp-collecting is more popular than rugby.

You will never be bored: A stamp album is so portable that you can carry your hobby anywhere you go – on holiday; in the rugby queue; at parties, in fact, anywhere!

Be appreciated: Stamps make the perfect gift and special issue Presentation Packs not only look pretty, they are full of juicy info and don't cost an arm and a leg!

Dosh-making potential: Some of the World's richest men collect stamps. You've got as good a chance of stumbling across a rare beauty by accident as they have and *you* might have something *they* want!

Excerpts taken from a publication by the Southern Africa Philatelic Federation long ago

Below: Penny Black
 Value R45 000

Right: State Theatre mini-Sheet
 Value R140 000



"By exploring beneath the surface, we often discover that what we judged of little worth really contains hidden treasure"

...